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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/825,172	04/16/2004	Terrence Martineau	ALC 3130	8264
7590 KRAMER & AMADO, P.C. Suite 240 1725 Duke Street Alexandria, VA 22314			EXAMINER TAN, ALVIN H	
			ART UNIT 2173	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 05/12/2009	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/825,172

Applicant(s)

MARTINEAU ET AL.

Examiner

ALVIN H. TAN

Art Unit

2173

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 January 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6,8-16 and 18-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6,8-16 and 18-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-16, and 18-23 have been examined and rejected. This Office action is responsive to the amendment filed on 1/19/09, which has been entered in the above identified application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 3-6, 8-16, and 18-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Weinberg et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,237,006 B1).

Claims 1, 3-5, 21 (Method)

- 3-1. Regarding claim 1, Weinberg teaches the claim of displaying all connections between a subject node and outside nodes not displayed on a map currently presented on a graphical user interface (GUI) of a communication network, wherein each of said outside nodes is associated with at least one of a plurality of outside node groups, by disclosing using web scanning routines to gather information about content objects and

links of a Web site via a network connection [column 2, lines 10-23]. Users enter a home page for populating a site graph [column 21, lines 17-39]. As shown in [figure 4], a symbol in the site graph may be used to represent inbound and outbound links [column 17, lines 20-37] that are not displayed in the site graph. The inbound and outbound links may be considered outside node groups.

Weinberg teaches bundling for each of said plurality of outside node groups, said connections between said subject node and said outside nodes belonging to said outside node group to create an outside link bundle, by disclosing using a parent-child node relationship to group the nodes [column 2, lines 32-48]. [Figure 6, column 18, lines 20-32] shows outbound links for a URL and [figure 22] shows incoming links to a node. These inbound and outbound links are bundled and represented by a node on the site graph such as node 84 [figure 4].

Weinberg teaches grouping said outside link bundles into a multiple link connector (MLC) object and associating an interactive connector icon with said MLC object, by disclosing grouping nodes together [column 20, lines 24-30]. As shown in [figures 6, 22], each node may represent more nodes indicating inbound and outbound links, wherein each of those nodes itself may contain its own inbound and outbound links.

Weinberg teaches displaying said interactive connector icon on said map, wherein said interactive connector icon is attached to said subject node, by disclosing a node 84 connected to a main node as shown in [figure 4].

Weinberg teaches displaying, responsive to selecting said interactive connector icon, a pop-up window showing a multiple link connector (MLC) list where each outside link bundle and corresponding outside node group are displayed as an item in said MLC list, by disclosing displaying a list view with each line of text representing one node of the site map and displaying various information about the node such as the URL *[column 17, lines 20-37]*. When a node is selected in the site map, the corresponding line in the list view is automatically highlighted *[column 17, lines 52-55]*. The list includes information about the URL of the selected icon and the number of inbound and outbound links *[column 17, lines 20-37]*.

3-2. Regarding claim 3, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 1, wherein said MLC list displays in each row an interactive outside link widget associated with a respective interactive group identification widget, by disclosing displaying a list view with each line of text representing one node of the site map *[column 17, lines 20-37]*.

Weinberg teaches each interactive outside link widget is associated with one of said outside link bundles, by disclosing that each line of text represents one node of the site map *[column 17, lines 26-28]*.

Weinberg teaches each interactive group identification widget is associated with a respective one of said outside node groups, by disclosing displaying information about the inbound and outbound links *[column 17, lines 20-37]*

3-3. Regarding claim 4, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 3, further comprising selecting said interactive outside link widget on said MLC list to display a connections list $L(n)$ identifying all connections bundled within said link bundle, by disclosing that when a user selects a line in the list view, the corresponding node will be highlighted in the site map [column 17, lines 57-59]. Information about the inbound and outbound links are also displayed [column 17, lines 20-37].

3-4. Regarding claim 5, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 3, further comprising selecting said respective interactive group identification widget on said multiple link connector list to display a sub-map of said network showing said one of said outside node groups, by disclosing that the user can select a node and display all inbound or outbound links of the node [column 18, lines 20-32].

3-5. Regarding claim 21, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of outside node groups is associated with only one outside node, by disclosing displaying the number of inbound and outbound links [column 17, lines 20-37]. If the URL only has one outbound link, only one will be displayed.

Claims 6, 8-12, 22 (System)

3-6. Regarding claim 6, Weinberg teaches the claim comprising a map data collector that collects map data for a network device to be displayed on a map of interest, by disclosing using web scanning routines to gather information about content objects and

links of a Web site via a network connection [column 2, lines 10-23]. Users enter a home page for populating a site graph [column 21, lines 17-39].

Weinberg teaches a multiple link connector (MLC) generator that bundles connections between said network device and each of a plurality of groups of outside network devices external to said map into an outside link bundle, and maintains a connections list $L(n)$ for each of said outside link bundles, by disclosing using a parent-child node relationship to group the nodes [column 2, lines 32-48]. [Figure 6, column 18, lines 20-32] shows outbound links for a URL and [figure 22] shows incoming links to a node. These inbound and outbound links are bundled and represented by a node on the site graph such as node 84 [figure 4].

Weinberg teaches a list organizer that groups said outside link bundles for said network device into a multiple link connector (MLC) and associates an interactive connector icon with said MLC, by disclosing grouping nodes together [column 20, lines 24-30]. As shown in [figures 6, 22], each node may represent more nodes indicating inbound and outbound links, wherein each of those nodes itself may contain its own inbound and outbound links.

Weinberg teaches wherein said interactive connector icon is displayed on said map and is attached to said network device, by disclosing a node 84 connected to a main node as shown in [figure 4].

Weinberg teaches an interface that displays a multiple link connector (MLC) list in response to a selection of said interactive connector icon, each row of said MLC list showing an association between one of said outside link bundles and a respective one

of said plurality of groups of outside network devices, by disclosing displaying a list view with each line of text representing one node of the site map and displaying various information about the node such as the URL *[column 17, lines 20-37]*. When a node is selected in the site map, the corresponding line in the list view is automatically highlighted *[column 17, lines 52-55]*. The list includes information about the URL of the selected icon and the number of inbound and outbound links *[column 17, lines 20-37]*.

3-7. Regarding claim 8, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 6, wherein each said outside link bundle is displayed on said MLC list using an interactive outside link widget, by disclosing that each line of text represents one node of the site map *[column 17, lines 26-28]*.

3-8. Regarding claim 9, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 6, wherein each said group of outside network devices associated with said respective outside link bundle is displayed using an interactive group identification widget, by disclosing displaying information about the inbound and outbound links *[column 17, lines 20-37]*.

3-9. Regarding claim 10, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 8, wherein said list organizer displays said list of connections $L(n)$ associated with a respective outside link bundle in response to selection of said interactive outside link widget, by disclosing that when a node is selected in the site map, the corresponding line in the list view is automatically highlighted *[column 17, lines 52-55]*.

3-10. Regarding claim 11, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 9, wherein said list organizer displays a sub-map of said group in response to selection of said interactive group identification widget, by disclosing that the user can select a node and display all inbound or outbound links of the node *[column 18, lines 20-32]*.

3-11. Regarding claim 12, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 6, wherein said interactive connector icon is not generated for a MLC containing only one connection by disclosing grouping using nodes object 118 when there are multiple connections 115 *[column 20, lines 24-30]*. If the node does not have any outbound links, none will be displayed.

3-12. Regarding claim 22, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 6, wherein at least one of said plurality of groups of outside network devices is associated with only one outside network device, by disclosing displaying the number of inbound and outbound links *[column 17, lines 20-37]*. If the URL only has one outbound link, only one will be displayed.

Claims 13-15, 23

3-13. Regarding claim 13, Weinberg teaches the claim comprising whenever a network device has connections to a group of outside network devices external to said map, bundling said connections into an outside link bundle, by disclosing using web scanning

routines to gather information about content objects and links of a Web site via a network connection [column 2, lines 10-23]. Users enter a home page for populating a site graph [column 21, lines 17-39]. A parent-child node relationship is used to group the nodes [column 2, lines 32-48]. Node objects may be grouped together [column 20, lines 24-30]. The nodes represent content objects of Web sites which may be stored on Web servers on multiple computers that are geographically distributed [column 19, lines 39-49]. Thus, the nodes are associated with network devices. As shown in [figure 4], a symbol in the site graph may be used to represent inbound and outbound links [column 17, lines 20-37] that are not displayed in the site graph. The inbound and outbound links may be considered groups of outside network devices.

Weinberg teaches displaying an interactive multiple link connector (MLC) icon, the MLC icon grouping all outside link bundles associated with said network device into a single icon, by disclosing grouping nodes together [column 20, lines 24-30] and displaying nodes on the site graph [figure 24]. As shown in [figures 6, 22], each node may represent more nodes indicating inbound and outbound links, wherein each of those nodes itself may contain its own inbound and outbound links.

Weinberg teaches selecting said MLC icon on said map to obtain a multiple link connector (MLC) list that displays an interactive outside link widget for each of said outside link bundles, each interactive outside link widget associated with an interactive group identification widget for each group of outside network devices connected to said network device, by disclosing displaying a list view with each line of text representing one node of the site map and displaying various information about the node such as the

URL [column 17, lines 20-37]. When a node is selected in the site map, the corresponding line in the list view is automatically highlighted [column 17, lines 52-55]. The list includes information about the URL of the selected icon and the number of inbound and outbound links [column 17, lines 20-37].

3-14. Regarding claim 14, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 13, further comprising selecting said interactive outside link widget for said associated outside link bundle to obtain a list L(n) with all connections contained in said associated outside link bundle, by disclosing that when a user selects a line in the list view, the corresponding node will be highlighted in the site map [column 17, lines 57-59]. Information about the inbound and outbound links is also displayed [column 17, lines 20-37].

3-15. Regarding claim 15, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 13, further comprising selecting said interactive group identification widget on said multiple link connector list to display a sub-map of all network devices in said associated group, by disclosing that the user can select a node and display all inbound or outbound links of the node [column 18, lines 20-32].

3-16. Regarding claim 23, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 13, wherein at least one of said groups of outside network devices is associated with only one outside node, by disclosing displaying the number of inbound and outbound links

[column 17, lines 20-37]. If the URL only has one outbound link, only one will be displayed.

Claims 16, 18-20 (Computer Readable Media)

3-17. Regarding claim 16, Weinberg teaches the claim comprising a network device icon, illustrating a network device in the context of said map, by disclosing using web scanning routines to gather information about content objects and links of a Web site via a network connection [column 2, lines 10-23]. Users enter a home page for populating a site graph with nodes [column 21, lines 17-39]. The nodes represent content objects of Web sites which may be stored on Web servers on multiple computers that are geographically distributed [column 19, lines 39-49]. Thus, the nodes may represent network devices storing the content objects.

Weinberg teaches an interactive multiple link connector (MLC) icon associated to said network device, representing all outside links between said network device and all groups of outside network devices connected to the network device, by disclosing using a parent-child node relationship to group the nodes [column 2, lines 32-48]. [Figure 6, column 18, lines 20-32] shows outbound links for a URL and [figure 22] shows incoming links to a node. These inbound and outbound links are bundled and represented by a node on the site graph such as node 84 [figure 4].

Weinberg teaches wherein said MLC icon comprises a button for enabling display of a multiple link connector list and a pop-up window displaying said MLC list, wherein each row in said MLC list displays one of said outside links and said group of

outside network devices to which said outside link connects, by disclosing a list view with each line of text representing one node of the site map and displaying various information about the node such as the URL *[column 17, lines 20-37]*. When a node is selected in the site map, the corresponding line in the list view is automatically highlighted *[column 17, lines 52-55]*. Users may select a node and display all inbound or outbound links of the node *[column 18, lines 20-32]*.

3-18. Regarding claim 18, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 16, wherein each row of said multiple link connector list comprises an outside link widget associated with a group identification widget, by disclosing displaying a list view with each line of text representing one node of the site map *[column 17, lines 20-37]*.

3-19. Regarding claim 19, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 18, further comprising a list with all connections between said network device and said group, the list displayed on said map upon selection of said outside link widget, by disclosing that when a user selects a line in the list view, the corresponding node will be highlighted in the site map *[column 17, lines 57-59]*.

3-20. Regarding claim 20, Weinberg teaches the claim with respect to claim 18, further comprising a sub-map of said group displayed on said map upon selection of said group identification widget, by disclosing that the user can select a node and display all outgoing links of the node *[column 18, lines 20-32]*.

Response to Arguments

4. The Examiner acknowledges the Applicant's amendments to claims 1, 3, 4-6, 8-10, 12-16, and 18-20 and the addition of claims 21-23. Regarding independent claim 1, the Applicant alleges that Weinberg et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,237,006 B1) does not explicitly teach "grouping said outside link bundles into a multiple link connector (MLC) object and associating an interactive connector icon with said MLC object. Contrary to Applicant's arguments, Weinberg discloses that, as shown in *[figure 4]*, a symbol in the site graph may be used to represent inbound and outbound links *[column 17, lines 20-37]* that are not displayed in the site graph. The inbound and outbound links may be considered outside node groups. *[Figure 6, column 18, lines 20-32]* shows outbound links for a URL and *[figure 22]* shows incoming links to a node. These inbound and outbound links are bundled and represented by a node on the site graph such as node 84 *[figure 4]*.

Applicant alleges that Weinberg does not explicitly teach "displaying, responsive to selecting said interactive connector icon, a pop-up window showing a multiple link connector (MLC) list wherein each outside link bundle and corresponding outside node group are displayed as an item in said MLC list." Examiner notes that nowhere in the claim recites displaying a list of only the outside elements and that the displayed elements in the MLC list are detailed. The claim only recites displaying corresponding outside node groups as an item in said MLC list, which may be interpreted broadly as to what information needs to be displayed. Contrary to Applicant's arguments, the URLs

displayed in the list 80 *[figure 4]* may be interpreted as an outside link bundle since each of the URLs contain outbound and inbound links *[column 17, lines 20-37]*. The outside node groups, represented by inbound and outbound links, are displayed as items within the list since they have their own column heading. Consequently, and given the broadest, most reasonable interpretation of their claim language, Weinberg is still considered to teach claim 1.

Similar arguments have been presented for independent claims 6, 13, and 16 and thus, Applicant's arguments are not persuasive for the same reasons.

Applicant states that dependent claims 3-5, 8-12, 14, 15, and 18-23 recite all the limitations of the independent claims, and thus, are allowable in view of the remarks set forth regarding independently amended claims 1, 6, 13, and 16. However, as discussed above, Weinberg is considered to teach claims 1, 6, 13, and 16, and consequently, claims 3-5, 8-12, 14, 15, and 18-23 are rejected.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALVIN H. TAN whose telephone number is (571)272-8595. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kieu Vu can be reached on 571-272-4057. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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